

REMARKS

Claims 1-8, 16 and 17 are pending in the application. Claims 1, 5, 8 and 17 have been amended. Claims 9 and 10 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-10, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,449,624 to Hammack et al., hereafter Hammack. This rejection is moot as to claims 9 and 10, which have been canceled.

Independent claims 1, 5 and 17 have been amended to recite:

“wherein said object is a user defined template, and wherein said existing dependent objects are children user defined templates of said object or instances of said object or of said children user defined templates”.

Hammack does not disclose or teach user defined templates or instances as recited in amended independent claims 1, 5 and 17. Therefore, amended independent claims 1, 5 and 15 and dependent claims 2-4 and 6-8 are not anticipated by Hammack.

Independent claim 16 recites:

“determining whether an object to be checked-in has a first derivation parent”.

In paragraph 13 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that this determining step is disclosed by Hammack, citing column 2, lines 63-67, Table 2, column 12, lines 14-18, Fig. 12, column 23, lines 36-41 and 49-56, column 25, lines 15-20, and column 13, lines 58-66. However, none of these citations discloses determining if an object has a derivation parent. In each case, Hammack is referring to subordinate items, not parent items.

Independent claim 16 further recites:

“determining for each contained object that is contained in said object, whether said contained object has a second derivation parent, if said object does not have said first derivation parent”.

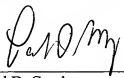
In paragraph 13 of the Office Action, the Examiner contends that this determining step is disclosed by Hammack, citing column 11, lines 48-51. However, none of these citations discloses a “contained object that is contained in said object” or determining “whether said contained object has a second derivation parent”. In each case, Hammack’s citation is referring to subordinate items, not parent items. Therefore, independent claim 16 is not anticipated by Hammack.

For the reason set forth above, it is submitted that the rejection of claims 1-8, 16 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Hammack is obviated by the amendment or is erroneous and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth above that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) be withdrawn, that claims 1-8, 16 and 17 be allowed and that this application be passed to issue.

Respectfully Submitted,

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